

notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. I have sent the enclosed notice, stating that the Burma emergency is to continue beyond May 20, 2004, to the *Federal Register* for publication. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on May 19, 2003.

The crisis between the United States and Burma, constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of Burma, including its policies of committing large-scale repression of the democratic opposition in Burma that led to the declaration of a national emergency on May 20, 1997, has not been resolved. These actions and policies are hostile to U.S. interests and pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency with respect to Burma and maintain in force the sanctions against Burma to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 17, 2004.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:39 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4275. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the 10-percent individual income tax rate bracket.

H.R. 4279. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the disposition of unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system, and to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to improve access and choice for entrepreneurs with small business with respect to medical care for their employees.

H.J. Res. 91 Joint resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 414. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that, as Congress recognizes the 50th anniversary of the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, all Americans are encouraged to observe this anniversary with a commitment to continuing and building on the legacy of *Brown*.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h, the order of the House of December 8, 2003, and clause 10 of rule I, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. KOLBE of Arizona, Chairman, Mr. BALLENGER of North Carolina, Vice Chairman, Mr. DREIER of

California, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mr. MANZULLO of Illinois, Mr. WELLER of Illinois, and, Mr. STENHOLM of Texas.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following joint resolution was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.J. Res. 91. Joint resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The following concurrent resolution was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 414. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that, as Congress recognizes the 50th anniversary of the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, all Americans are encouraged to observe this anniversary with a commitment to continuing and building on the legacy of *Brown*; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 4275. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the 10-percent individual income tax rate bracket.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

POM-433. A joint resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Maine relative to the Farm-to-Cafeteria Projects Act; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Whereas, in the past 30 years childhood obesity rates in the United States have doubled in our children and tripled in our adolescents due to poor eating habits, and obesity can contribute to increased likelihood of developing diabetes, high blood pressure, high blood cholesterol and clogging of the arteries; and

Whereas, school cafeterias serve millions of children breakfast, snacks and lunch every day and struggle to maintain services in light of diminished budgets at the local, state and federal levels; and

Whereas, in May of 2003, the Economic Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture released an evaluation of the Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Program, which, according to the report, worked to change immediately children's fruit and vegetable consumption, improve children's health, create a healthier school environment and supply a positive model for children's diets; and

Whereas, agriculture sustains rural communities, protects open space, creates scenic vistas and protects water recharge areas; and

Whereas, the northeastern states have a traditional system of small and mid-sized producers of agricultural products located close to the towns, villages and urban centers where the majority of the 58 million consumers reside;

Whereas, programs that link local farms to school cafeterias are reconnecting urban American with local agriculture in every state where they operate and providing a unique opportunity to make local agriculture relevant to the majority of the American population that now resides in urban and suburban

Resolved, That We, your Memorialists, respectfully urge passage of the Farm-to-Cafeteria Projects Act and any other legislation that will accomplish these goals: to assist schools in purchasing locally grown food, to provide more healthy and fresh foods for schoolchildren, to educate children and their families about the foods that are grown in their own communities and to expand market opportunities for local farms, ensuring that regional agriculture continue to be viable and available to provide a safe, secure food supply to all consumers; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticate by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture and the Northeast States Association for Agricultural Stewardship and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

POM-434. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky relative to First Lieutenant Garlin Murl Conner; to the Committee on Armed Services.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas, Lieutenant Garlin Murl Conner was a native of Clinton County, Kentucky, who served with distinction and valor in the United States Army during World War II; and

Whereas, Kentucky Congressman Ed Whitfield introduced H.R. 327 to the 108th Congress to bestow this highly deserved honor on Lieutenant Garlin Murl Conner; and

Whereas, Lieutenant Garlin Murl Conner is Kentucky's most decorated war hero, who served on the front lines for over eight hundred days in eight major campaigns; he was wounded seven times but returned to combat and continued to fight on the front lines after each wound; and

Whereas, during World War II, over forty 3rd Division soldiers received Medals of Honor, more than any other Division; however, Lieutenant Garlin Murl Conner was not awarded the medal of Honor due to an oversight and failure to process the paperwork;

Whereas, Lieutenant Conner served in the 3rd Infantry Division with Audie L. Murphy, America's most decorated hero of all wars; as compared to Audie L. Murphy, Lieutenant Conner was awarded more Silver Stars for acts of valor, fought in more campaigns, served on the front lines longer, and was wounded more times; he was awarded many honors including the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart with six Oak Leaf Clusters, and other medals; and

Whereas, on June 20, 1945, Lieutenant Conner was awarded the Croix de Guerre, the French Medal of Honor, that was also awarded to Sergeant Alvin C. York, America's most decorated World War I soldier, who was a friend of Lieutenant Conner and lived a few miles from Lieutenant Conner's home on the Kentucky-Tennessee border; and

Whereas, Major General Lloyd B. Ramsey (Ret.), who was Lieutenant Conner's battalion commander during combat in World War II, is still living and has signed the necessary documents for awarding the Medal of Honor to Lieutenant Conner; in 1945, Major General Ramsey wrote that Lieutenant Conner was "one of the outstanding soldiers of this war, if not the outstanding. . . I've never seen a man with as much courage and ability as he has"; and